

Having launched my own investigation, I tracked down Max Tant and called him on the phone on the 6<sup>th</sup> of August. Several aspects of our conversation confirmed my suspicion that Max Tant did not write the rebuttals in Plato's Argument forum that took place in Unit 5: Plato Against Democracy:

1. Max feigned to know who I was, but clearly had only a second-hand notion of who I was. The most he could say was: "Oh, you are the guy with bizarre notions of how the world should be run."
2. Max did not know the subject of our dialogue (namely Plato) or the forum in which it took place (i.e. "Plato's Argument").
3. Max promised me he would confirm in writing that he and not Dr. De Grandis was the one who posted the rebuttals to my posts in Plato's Argument forum. Despite his promise, he did not.
4. More than this, Max never replied to either my email to him on the 9<sup>th</sup> of August (see Appendix 13) or to my email to him on the 6<sup>th</sup> of August (see below), which confirmed to me that he was not prepared to lie in writing.

All evidence points to the fact that Dr. De Grandis used Max Tant's name to engage me in debate. Why he did so and why he refused to admit doing so is puzzling. One has to ask if Oxford routinely uses phantom students in online courses and, if so, why? One has to ask why none of Oxford's adjudicators has admitted the deception Oxford is engaging in by refusing to reveal that Max Tant was merely a proxy for Dr. De Grandis. Does Oxford use phantom students in online courses in order to control the nature of the debate and the political content? If so, is this not a form of censorship? All of these are questions that Oxford needs to answer if justice is to be served in my case.

participation in the course

Von: **kevin galalae** (kgalalae@hotmail.com)  
Gesendet: Donnerstag, 6. August 2009 16:50:55  
An: max.tant@sky.com

Dear Max,

First of all, congratulations on your new job!

As I have explained on the phone, I need to have your confirmation in writing on the following points:

1. *That you have participated in the Political Philosophy online course offered by the Continuing Education Department of Oxford University from April 20 to June 29, 2009.*
2. *That you are the only person who posted under the name of Max Tant and that no proxy or collaborative efforts were posted under your name with or without your approval.*
3. *That you did not know Dr. Giovanni De Grandis or Ivor Middleton prior to your participation in the course.*
4. *That you and no one else engaged me in lesson six when you and I debated Plato and democracy.*

This will allow me to clear my name at the Disciplinary Panel hearing and ensure that I do not accuse Dr. De Grandis of false allegations due to incomplete information. This will also allow me to ascertain beyond a reasonable doubt that Oxford did not use your name to control the course debates by using false identities.

Please note that this declaration will be used in a court of law and that you will have to appear in court to corroborate its veracity if the conflict is not resolved at the university level and I am forced to launch legal action against Oxford University.

In conclusion, I would like to mention that I enjoyed debating you and that I regret not having had the opportunity to do so again.

Regards,

Kevin Galalae